

6976/SYNX/HM

In the specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2,  
line 20 with the following amended paragraph:

U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/407,463,  
filed August 31, 2002 and titled "Wafer Carrier Handler That  
Unloads Wafer Carriers Directly From a Moving Conveyor"  
(Attorney Docket No. 7676/L1).

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2,  
line 25 with the following amended paragraph:

U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/443,004,  
filed January 27, 2003 and titled "Wafer Carrier Handler That  
Unloads Wafer Carriers Directly From a Moving Conveyor"  
(Attorney Docket No. 7676/L2).

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 25,  
line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 12A is a schematic isometric view of an exemplary substrate clamping mechanism 1200 that may interact with the latching mechanism 218 of FIG. 11 (as further described in above-referenced U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/407,340, filed August 31, 2002 and titled "Wafer Carrier having Door Latching and Wafer Clamping Mechanisms" (Attorney Docket No. 7156/L)). FIG. 12B is a magnified isometric view, showing details of a portion 1202 of FIG. 12A.

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**Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 26,  
line 7 with the following amended paragraph:**

Contact with the substrate 202 may be made via a V-shaped groove (not shown) formed in the end 1214 of the horizontal leg 1206 of the clamping member 1204. Other configurations than a V-shaped groove may be employed to contact the substrate 202 (e.g., a flat groove or notch that accommodates the substrate 202, use of a membrane that encapsulates the clamping member 1204 and/or a soft material at the end 1214 of the clamping member 1204 to reduce particle generation and/or substrate contamination, etc.) as described in previously incorporated U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/407,340, filed August 31, 2002 and titled "Wafer Carrier having Door Latching and Wafer Clamping Mechanisms" (Attorney Docket No. 7156/L).